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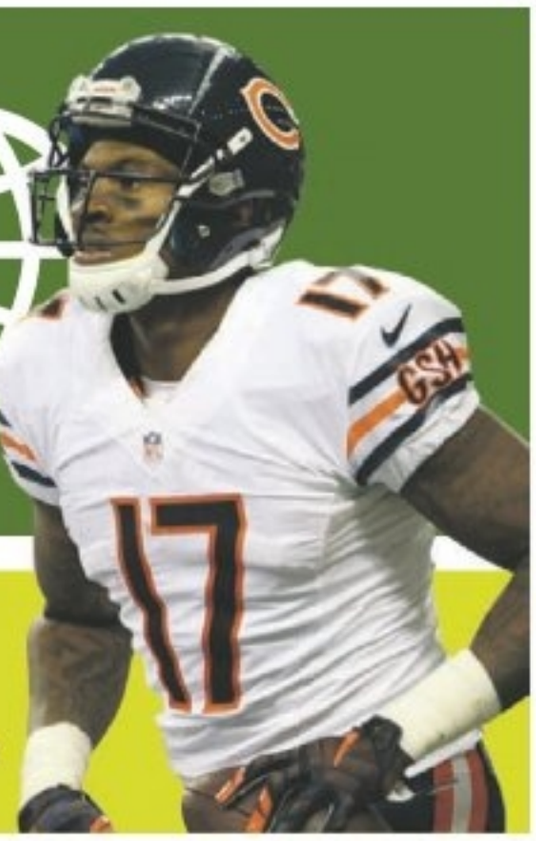


EAGLES RELOADING

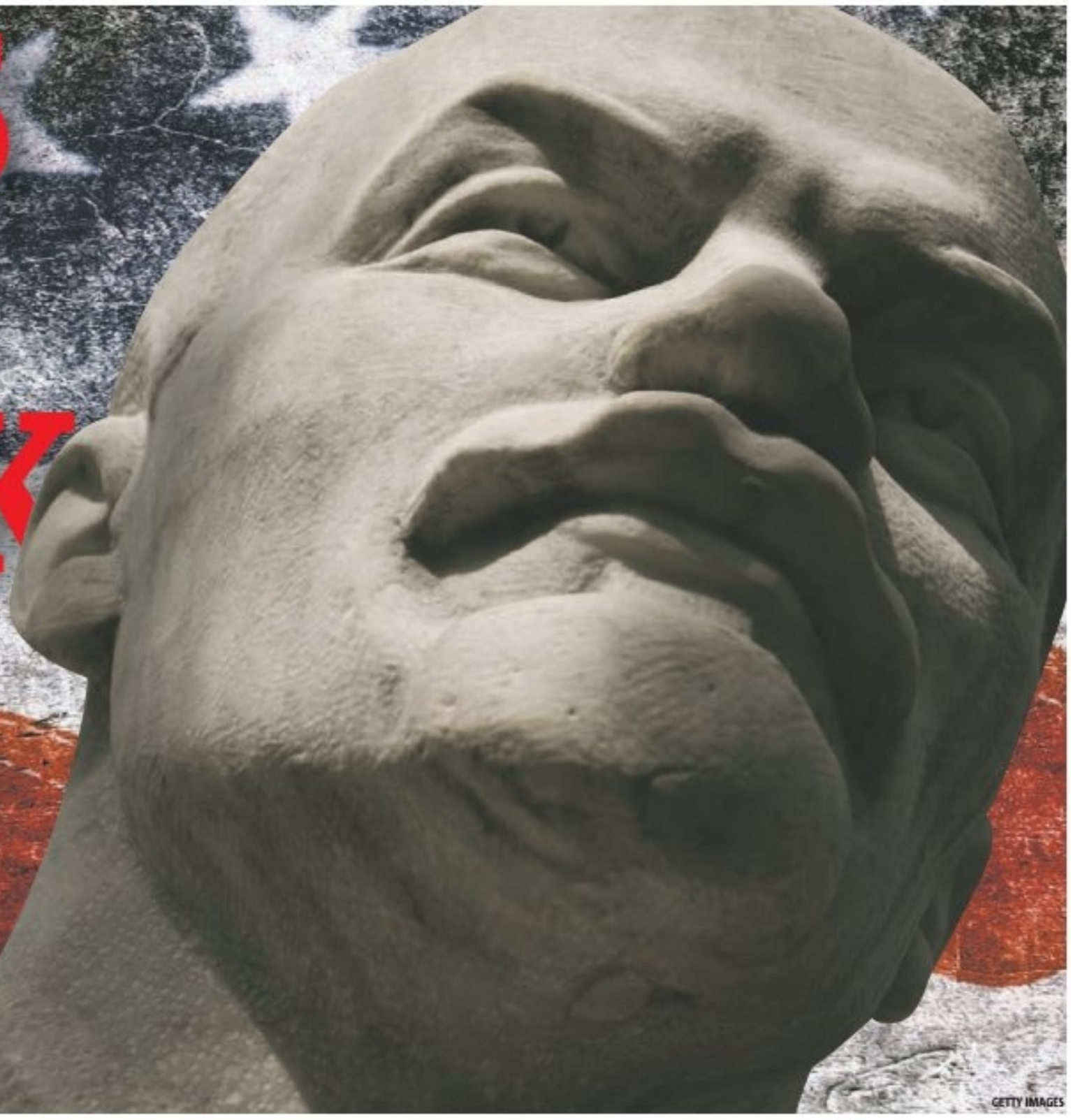
Do more weapons for Wentz improve team's long-term chances? 30

Kaling and Booker's 21st century romance. 20

What are the movies' scariest space monsters? 22

REDS ARE BACK

The Communist Party USA is alive and well, and seeing an uptick in membership thanks to Donald Trump. 4



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UBER SUSPENDS SELF-DRIVING CAR SERVICE

1 Uber Technologies Inc. suspended its pilot program for driverless cars on Saturday after a vehicle equipped with the nascent technology crashed on an Arizona roadway, the ride-hailing company and local police said. The accident, the latest involving a self-driving vehicle operated by one of several companies experimenting with autonomous vehicles, caused no serious injuries, Uber said. Even so, the company said it was grounding driverless cars involved in a pilot program in Arizona, Pittsburgh and San Francisco, pending the outcome of investigation into the crash on Friday evening in Tempe. "We are continuing to look into this incident," an Uber spokeswoman said in an email. REUTERS

RUSSIAN POLICE DETAIN OPPOSITION LEADER

2 Police detained hundreds of protesters across Russia on Sunday, including opposition leader Alexei Navalny, after thousands took to the streets to demonstrate against corruption and demand the resignation of Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev. The protests, reckoned to be the biggest since a wave of anti-Kremlin demonstrations in 2011/2012, come a year before a presidential election which Vladimir Putin is expected to contest, running for what would be a fourth term. Opinion polls suggest the liberal opposition, which Navalny represents, have little chance of fielding a candidate capable of unseating Putin, who enjoys high ratings. But Navalny and his supporters hope to channel public discontent over official corruption to attract more support. REUTERS

GUNFIRE IN CROWDED NIGHTCLUB KILLS ONE

3 Gunfire erupted inside a packed nightclub in Cincinnati, Ohio, early Sunday morning, killing one person and injuring 15 others, as an apparent argument that may have started earlier in the day turned violent, authorities said. Cincinnati Mayor John Cranley said there was no evidence of "a terrorist attack," as with last year's Pulse nightclub slaughter in Orlando, Florida, that killed 49 people in the deadliest

mass shooting in U.S. history. "However to the victims, what difference does it make?" Cranley said. "People were just going to have a good time and ended up getting shot." No arrests had been made hours after the shooting took place around 1 a.m. REUTERS

EARTH HOUR

5 The Ferris wheel at Luna Park and Sydney Harbour Bridge are plunged into darkness for the Earth Hour environmental campaign in Sydney on March 25. The lights went out on two of Sydney's most famous landmarks for the 10th anniversary of the climate change awareness campaign Earth Hour, among the first landmarks around the world to dim their lights for the event. GETTY IMAGES

5 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

CREDIT SUISSE CEO EARNS $12M DESPITE LOSSES

4 Credit Suisse CEO Tidjane Thiam's pay for his first full year in the job swelled to 11.9 million Swiss francs ($12 million), while bonuses rose 6 percent despite back-to-back annual losses at Switzerland's second-biggest bank. Executive pay is a hot-button issue in Switzerland, with voters backing a "fat cat" referendum in 2013 giving shareholders a binding vote on pay. Thiam's pay packet followed a near-3 billion franc loss at Credit Suisse in 2016 amid a major restructuring and penalties for the sale of toxic mortgage debt in the run-up to the financial crisis. "Overall, the board considered Mr. Thiam's strong leadership, consistent execution of the group's communicated strategy … determining that Mr. Thiam had met his performance targets set for the year," the bank said in its annual report on Friday. REUTERS

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GARY KANE, SENIOR EDITOR

A Congressman from New York is calling Russian President Vladimir Putin a "thief" for walking off with the Super Bowl XXXIX championship ring presented to New England Patriots' owner Robert Kraft. Read what Congressman Peter King has to say about the possibility of recovering the ring online at **metro.us/news.**

PLAY TO WIN

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Every Monday, we pick a random winner from the participants who answered correctly one of the quizzes from the previous week. Congrats to last week's winner, **Jose Taira.**

metro.us/quiz

BEEN INJURED?

AUTO ACCIDENTS • SEPTA ACCIDENTS • LIQUOR LIABILITY• MEDICAL MALPRACTICE

Did You Know?

DEFECTIVE ST. JUDE DEFIBRILLATORS

Lawsuits involving the St. Jude Implantable Cardioverter-Defibrillators ("ICD") and Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy Devices ("CRT-D") are being filed because the devices' batteries have been reported to fail without providing sufficient warning to patients, and might not function as needed. Numerous injuries and deaths have been reported due to the failure.

ICDs and CRT-Ds are medical devices implanted in patients with heart rhythm disorders such as bradycardia (slow heartbeat) and tachycardia (rapid heartbeat) to provide an electrical shock or pacing to correct the rhythm. ICDs and CRT-Ds are implanted under the skin in the upper chest area and have connected insulated wires which run from the device into the heart.

ICDs and CRT-Ds are powered by lithium-based batteries which can generally function without need for replacement for several years. Following implantation, an ICD's battery power slowly begins to deplete until it reaches a certain level at which point it sends a signal to the patient informing them it's time to have the battery replaced.

This notification, described as a vibration and/or auditory alert, is sent when the battery reaches approximately three months-worth of remaining battery life so the patient has sufficient time to see a physician for battery replacement.

The St. Jude ICDs and CRT-Ds have a potential defective battery that can quickly lose its charge without providing adequate warning, sometimes leaving only hours or days to get the battery replaced before it fails entirely. This failure can prevent the devices from providing needed pacing or shocks.

The FDA initiated a formal recall of the St. Jude ICD and CRT-D medical devices in October 2016. The FDA designated the action a Class 1 Recall, which is the highest and/or most serious level, and involves products that can predictably cause severe health problems including injury or death.

The recall involves the following devices which were manufactured between January 2010 and May 2015.

Device Name	Model Numbers
Fortify VR	CD1231-40, CD1231-40Q
Fortify ST VR	CD1241-40, CD1241-40Q
Fortify Assura VR	CD1257-40, CD1257-40Q, CD1357-40C, CD1357-40Q
Fortify Assura ST VR	CD1263-40, CD1263-40Q, CD1363-40C, CD1363-40Q
Fortify DR	CD2231-40, CD2231-40Q
Fortify ST DR	CD2241-40, CD-2241-40Q, CD2263-40, CD2263-40Q
Fortify Assura DR	CD2257-40, CD2257-40Q, CD2357-40C, CD2357-40Q
Fortify Assura ST DR	CD2363-40C, CD2363-40Q
Unify	CD3231-40, CD3231-40Q
Unify Quadra	CD3249-40, CD3249-40Q
Unify Assura	CD3257-40, CD3257-40Q, CD3357-40C, CD3357-40Q
Quadra Assura	CD3265-40, CD3265-40Q, CD3365-40C, CD3365-40Q
Quadra Assura MP	CD3269-40, CD3269-40Q, CD3369-40C

To determine whether your specific device is subject to the recall, you can input your model and serial number into the St. Jude Medical database by going to St. Jude Premature Battery Advisory.

If you feel that you or a loved one have been injured as a result of a defective St. Jude Defibrillator dating from 2010 to the present, call us at (215) 569-1212 to explore whether you may have the right to recover full compensation for your injuries.

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What Trump did for the Communist Party USA

The party works out of a loft in Manhattan's trendy Chelsea neighborhood.

GARY KANE
@MetroNewYork
gary.kane@metro.us

Jarvis Tyner campaigned twice for the vice presidency of the United States as the nominee of the Communist Party USA. BESS ADLER

There was a time in American history when the fear of communism reached such a fevered pitch of paranoia that it came to be known as the Red Scare.

Either by invasion or infiltration, communists planned to take over the United States. There were "Reds under the beds," argued those who urged Congress to outlaw the American Communist Party, which it attempted to do in 1954 when it passed the Communist Control Act.

Rather than hide under beds, today's communists occupy a spacious loft in the Chelsea neighborhood of Manhattan — headquarters of the Communist Party USA. Portraits of notable American communists line one wall of the loft. A bust of Vladimir Lenin glares from a windowsill. A framed photo near the entranceway shows former party Chairman Henry Winston standing next to Fidel Castro.

"Yes, we're still here," said Jarvis Tyner, former chairman of New York's Communist Party.

For America's communists today, it seems the Red Scare has been replaced by the Orange Scare — President Donald Trump.

"I think Trump may not even consciously know it, but the objective effect of his policies move us in a fascist direction," he said. "I think the fascist danger is very great. He is not an ordinary right-winger."

Trump is threatening to make broad political changes that aim to elevate the power of corporate America while weakening the power of the people, Tyner said.

"He put racists in charge of the Justice Department," he said. "He put polluters in charge of the EPA. He put the head of Exxon in charge of foreign policy and a woman who believes in private schools in charge of the nation's education policy when 90 percent of the students attend public schools."

Tyner's overall assessment of the current occupant of the White House: "The guy is a crude ignoramus."

He's quick to point out that since Trump's election, the Communist Party USA has seen a slight uptick in membership — about 600 new members since Election Day.

During the past five years, about 5,000 Americans have joined the Communist Party USA via the internet, party officials said. Most of these members haven't join the party's clubs, or grassroots organizations. There are 3,000 clubs nationwide.

Although some members are well versed in Marxist theory, a thorough understanding of communist doctrine isn't a prerequisite to joining the party.

Longtime American communist leader moves into semi-retirement

Jarvis Tyner is the Executive Vice Chair of the Communist Party USA. BESS ADLER

Jarvis Tyner became a communist soon after finishing high school in West Philadelphia. Roughly two decades later, he was campaigning for the office of Vice President of the United States as the candidate of the Community Party USA.

He wasn't welcome at every stop along the campaign trail, but he managed to win over some crowds in rather unlikely places.

"I campaigned all through the South," he said. "I talked to them about straight-up class stuff, how some people are rich and you have nothing. They were open to hear what we had to say."

Tyner ran twice as the party's vice president nominee, in 1972 and 1976. Both times he shared the ticket with party leader Gus Hall.

"I believe we never did get on the ballot in more than 24 states," he said.

Hall, who led the CPUSA for more than 40 years, campaigned for the presidency two more times, in 1980 and 1984. His running mate both times was Angela Davis, a counterculture activist during the 1960s who was linked to the Black Panther Party during the civil rights movement.

The CPUSA hasn't nominated a presidential candidate since Hall's last campaign in 1984.

Tyner held various leadership positions with the party and until recently was its executive vice chairman. At age 75, he's semi-retired.

"I've see the party evolve over a long period of time," he said. "No party has been more persecuted than ours. Our leadership was imprisoned. People were mistreated and lives were destroyed. But they kept on fighting and that tenacity influenced me a lot about the correctness of what they were doing and their deep dedication." GARY KANE

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TRUMP'S AMERICA

DONALD'S DELUSIONAL DICTIONARY

President Donald Trump. GETTY IMAGES

So much has changed now: new president, busy new agenda, new fiascoes every day. In Trump's America, even familiar words and phrases have had their meaning turned upside down.

Take "Republican unity." It used to be that GOPers in Washington found easy agreement: Hillary was awful. Obama was worse. What else do you need to know? But since Donald Trump became the president, those very same Republicans can't even agree on the best way to yank nana's health care. Double-charge the elderly? Legalize substandard insurance? Karate chop Medicaid? Even scary Steve Bannon couldn't unite this warring mob!

To eliminate any further confusion, here is Donald Trump's Personal Dictionary, a handy guide to the vital terms every American should know.

ELLIS HENICAN

Opinion

Ellis Henican is a seasoned observer of the nation's political and social landscape. He has appeared as a commentator on CNN, MSNBC and Fox News. He is a former columnist at Newsday. Follow him @henican

TAP MY PHONES: Do absolutely nothing to me.

THE CLOSER: One who swoops in noisily near the end and fails to make a deal.

NATO: An outmoded freeloaders' society.

NOT A MUSLIM BAN: A Muslim ban.

TWITTER: My id in 140 characters.

RUSSIAN HACKERS: True American patriots.

GEN. FLYNN: A good man driven from office by media lies.

GOP: Abbreviation for Gushing Over Putin.

100 DAYS: The initial phase of a presidential administration during which nothing is accomplished.

DAY ONE: When I will ban the Muslims, build the wall, b-slap China and give all Americans bargain health insurance they will absolutely love — a synonym for "maybe never."

OBAMACARE: A ticking time bomb.

TRUMPCARE/RYANCARE: Care-less.

EXTREMELY CREDIBLE SOURCE: Something I think I heard somewhere.

ALTERNATIVE FACT: The lead article on breitbart.com.

ART OF THE DEAL: A best-selling fantasy title from 1987.

THE APPRENTICE: How I'm approaching my amazing presidency.

ALT-RIGHT: For those who thought the Old Right was way too liberal.

EXTREME VETTING: Muslim welcome wagon.

IMMIGRANTS: Rapists, murderers, drug dealers, terrorists, etc.

FREEDOM CAUCUS: A diabolical band of double-crossers just begging for my brutal revenge.

10 EYES FOR AN EYE: Favorite Bible verse (edited).

MAR-A-LAGO: Spanish for "gorgeous beachside brand-builder."

BLIND TRUST: Close your eyes and trust me.

3 MILLION ILLEGAL VOTERS: A phantom, like Sasquatch, my tax forms and Melania's immigration file.

FAKE NEWS: Any story that reflects poorly on me.

THE TRUTH: An utterly irrelevant technicality.

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New hope for opioid addiction in Philadelphia

WRITTEN BY
Amy Smith

Few people can say that opioid addiction has not personally affected them. It's an all-too-real crisis that leaves suffering in its wake, destroying families along the way. The heroin epidemic has escalated so much, the city recently launched a task force specifically designed to fight it.

After seeing the effects firsthand, one primary care facility felt inspired to take real action. Greater Northeast Medical Group, which has been serving the community for 25 years, also doubles as a forward-thinking opioid addiction treatment center. Using a mix of medication-assisted treatment, therapeutic counseling, and internal medicine, this community resource is dedicated to changing the narrative around opioid addiction.

"Unfortunately the stigma around medication-assisted treatment is that the patient needs to be on the medicine forever," says Dr. Zoya Berenson, head physician. "Our program is designed to use the medications in conjunction with counseling as a stepping stone, with the goal to help patients taper off as they rebuild their lives."

The innovative recovery and rehabilitation program was born from a genuine investment in the community. Led by a team of doctors who truly care, its driving goal has always been to create something proven to help people struggling with opioid addiction. They're proud to say that Greater Northeast Medical Group Recovery Program does just that, offering up effective treatment shaped by compassionate care. Instead of taking a one-size-fits-all approach to addiction, counseling and support are woven into every comprehensive treatment plan in order to tailor to each individual patient.

Prescribed medications like Suboxone and Vivitrol are used to help reduce the physical symptoms associated with coming off opioids. The first actually eliminates withdrawal and reduces cravings while simultaneously blocking opiates. (This form of treatment also benefits pregnant women, who are able to use safe and effective alternatives.) While Vivitrol is a non-addictive medication injected after detox on a monthly basis to stop the effects of opiates or alcohol. In addition to medication management, the patient also works with a trained counselor to address the root cause of their addiction.

The Greater Northeast Medical Group Recovery Program brings a much-needed, affordable treatment option to Philadelphia and its suburbs. Head physicians Dr. Zoya Berenson and Dr. John P. Leichner work with Theresa Fanelli, CDAC, who leads the counseling program, and Gabriella Shafarenko, AAC, who coordinates treatment to fit the needs of each patient. The team's experience has shined a spotlight on what addiction does to family and personal relationships, friendships and careers which is why the facility also offers family counseling and support groups to enhance patient recovery.

Being a primary care office that treats a variety of conditions allows the facility to provide comprehensive care in support of the whole-body approach to healing. At Greater Northeast Medical Group, doctors and counselors meet on a weekly basis to review patient progress and readjust the patient's treatment.

"We know you are fighting for your life, which makes every moment count. Therefore, you should be able to reach out for support whenever you need it," says Shafarenko.

If opioid addiction is a destructive force in your life or the life of someone you love, reach out to Greater Northeast Medical Group Recovery Program today by calling 215-464-6104 or visiting their Facebook page (www.facebook.com/GNEMG).

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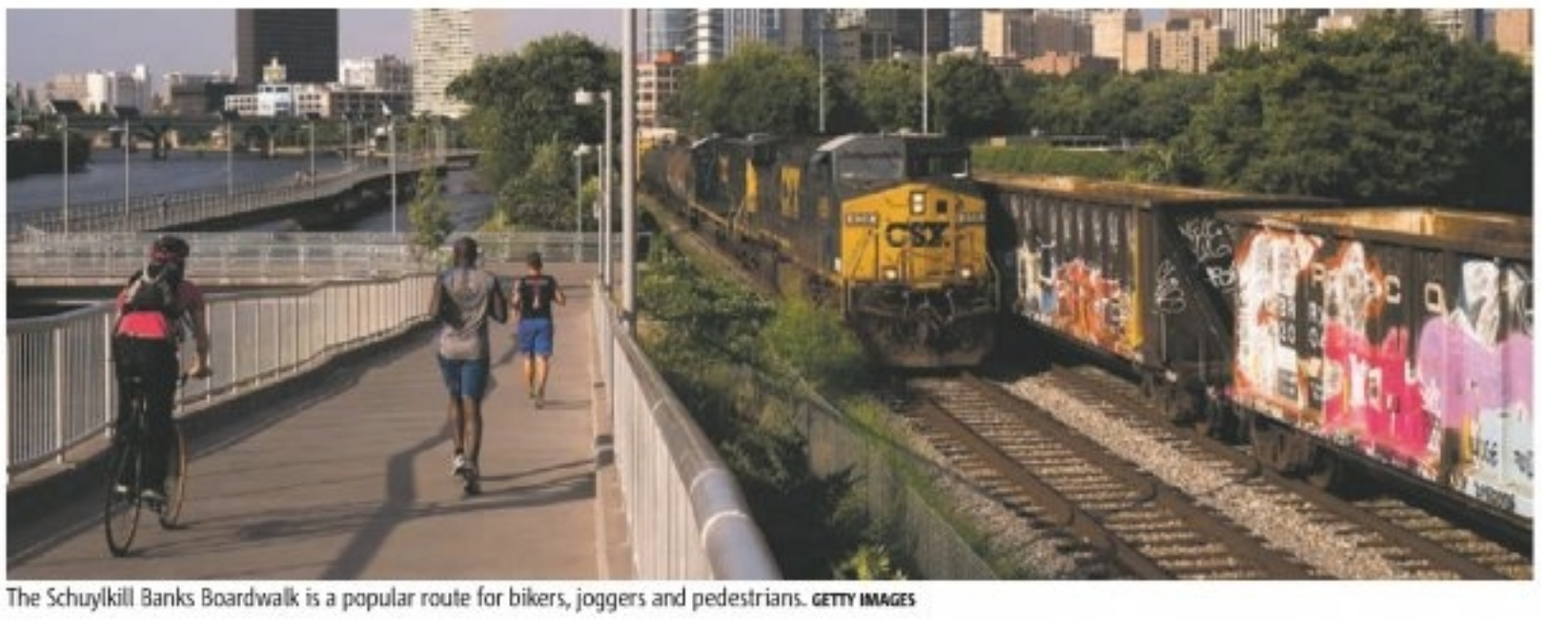

The Schuylkill Banks Boardwalk is a popular route for bikers, joggers and pedestrians. GETTY IMAGES

TRUMP'S BUDGET 'BLUEPRINT' IS BAD NEWS FOR BICYCLISTS

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RANDY LOBASSO

Federal transportation funding is important for Philadelphia's transit, traffic control and signals, pavement resurfacing, safe routes to schools, bicycle/pedestrian facilities, and for the city and state's tourism.

But the most recent federal budget "blueprint" proposal from the president would make massive cuts to transportation infrastructure spending, and completely do away with TIGER — the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery grant program — along with a 13 percent cut to the Department of Transportation.

President Trump's proposed budget "eliminates funding for the unauthorized TIGER discretionary grant program, which awards grants to projects that are generally eligible for funding under existing surface transportation formula programs" but keeps "DOT's Nationally Significant Freight and Highway Projects grant program, authorized by the FAST Act of 2015, supports larger highway and multimodal freight projects."

Get it? More highways, fewer "peopleways."

Such a proposal — like much of the Republicans' reactionary budgetary goals — makes short-term cuts at the expense of long-term gains.

The gains made by TIGER and similar programs would potentially be funneled back into some of the president's higher priorities, namely the already bloated military budget and tax cuts for the richest 1 percent.

The first TIGER grant awarded to Philadelphia in 2010 helped create the Schuylkill Banks Boardwalk, which is one of the city's premier biking and walking spots, serving thousands daily as a commuting and recreational path.

It was one of 10 trail projects handed out to Camden and Philly that year, which also included the connector bridge, creating an above-grade way to travel to and from the Schuylkill River from Center City. A more recent TIGER grant is funding a proposal that will create a more walkable, more bikeable American Street in North Philadelphia.

The list could go on. But TIGER grants aren't just financing great projects. They're also a more efficient use of our money.

TIGER essentially replaced federal earmarks. Before this program, anyone who wanted federal funding for their projects had to ask their congressperson or senator. Earmarks were approved and disapproved according to clout, and political compromise.

The congressional earmark system infamously funded the "bridge to nowhere" in Alaska.

Randy LoBasso is communications manager at the Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia.

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The Free Speech Bus encountered several protesters at a stop on March 23 in New York City.

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Fighting hate with love

A pop-up "love party" plans counteraction to anti-trans group.

ALEXIS SACHDEV
@lexsachdev
alexis.sachdev@metro.us

In response to conservative groups speaking out against LGBT rights, a coalition of Philadelphia organizations plans to stage a "pop-up love party" this week.

The Free Speech Bus, a bright-orange tour bus stopping in East Coast cities to rally fellow anti-transgender advocates, will arrive in Philadelphia on March 29. Gregory Mertz, the U.S. director ofCitizenGo, one of three groups sponsoring the bus, told Metro last week that conservatives "feel like they're being silenced by a small but very loud group of people."

Organized on Facebook by the Philadelphia Office of LGBT Affairs in partnership with the Mazzoni Center and other LGBT advocacy groups, the pop-up love party is intended to "peacefully counteract" the Free Speech Bus.

The pop-up love party asks participants to "stand up … against transphobia, ignorance and injustice," and invites trans people and their allies to bring signs – and love.

"Allowing this bus to park on our streets while spreading these inaccurate ideas is harmful to our city and the fabric of our community," the event page says in reference to a message on the exterior of the bus that challenges the legitimacy of being transgender.

Decorated with boy and girl stick figures with their respective XX and XY chromosomes, the bus stands out with this slogan: "Boys are boys…and always will be. Girls are girls … and always will be. You can't change sex. Respect all."

The National Organization for Marriage and the International Organization for the Family, two other groups organizing the campaign along with CitizenGo, have yet to announce where their bus will park in Philadelphia. Organizers for the pop-up party said they will follow suit.

Last week, the bus spent three days in New York City, where it was met with strong opposition. Reports said protesters scratched the bus with keys, cracked windows and spray-painted the bus with the message "trans liberation."

A similar bus in Madrid — CitizenGo is headquartered in Spain — was impounded by city officials earlier this month to prevent a hate crime.

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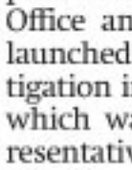
DA probes special election amid reports of 'rampant illegalities'

Democrats declared winner, but GOP, Green Party demand investigations.



SAM NEWHOUSE
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Democrat Emilio Vazquez reportedly won his write-in campaign for state representative of the 197th district in North Philly. But opponents say supporters of Vazquez violated numerous election laws. PROVIDED

Arguments and shoving matches at polling places. Election board officials berating voters they disagreed with and even tricking them into casting the wrong vote. Voters who supported certain candidates being denied entry to their polling place.

It may sound like a third-world country. But all those things allegedly happened in Philadelphia, during the special election for Pennsylvania state representative earlier this week.

Democrat Emilio Vazquez has been declared the winner of Tuesday's special election. Meanwhile, the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office announced it had launched a formal investigation into the election, which was for state representative of the 197th District.

The district attorney's office is asking witnesses to any misconduct to come forward.

"The Task Force received approximately 50 calls to its hotline and responded to several dozen allegations of illegal activity at polling places across the 197th," the DA's office said in a statement. "Some of the issues the Task Force is investigating include the use and placement of candidate write-in stamps, electioneering inside the polling place, illegal voter assistance, and individuals writing on posted sample ballots."

Vazquez, an auditor at the Philadelphia Parking Authority, was declared the victor after more than 2,000 write-in votes were counted Friday.

But opponents have three days to file challenges before the results become official in this unusual election, which had only one candidate, a Republican, on the ballot.

Green Party candidate Cheri Honkala, who also ran a write-in campaign, is suing in federal court for a new election on the basis of widespread reports of electioneering.

"This election has sickened me and I am stunned at the level of allegations of fraud and corruption," wrote Samuel Stretton, Honkala's attorney, in a letter sent to the Philadelphia City Commissioners. "The Democratic Party in Philadelphia County has to change."

Among the dozens of allegations are multiple reports that judges of elections, who supervise voting in each polling place, handed out stamps with Vazquez's name to voters.

Honkala's campaign also claims some of the write-in votes may have been mishandled. They provided a photograph apparently depicting a box with paper votes being carried to Vazquez's victory party.

The state GOP has called on the state Attorney General's Office to investigate the election. Republican candidate Lucinda Little was the only candidate on the ballot and received some 200 of the votes in the district.

"Various volunteers, party people, reporters had made allegations of rampant illegalities at the polling places," said state Rep. John Taylor at a Harrisburg news conference about the election. "Any candidate has the right to have a fair election."

Vazquez could not be reached for comment. The city's Democratic Party chair, Congressman Bob Brady, could not be reached immediately for comment. Mayor Jim Kenney, a Democrat, cannot comment on a pending investigation, his spokeswoman said.

City Council President Darrell Clarke, a Democrat, did visit some polling places on March 21, but did not observe any illegal activity, a spokeswoman said.

"He was impressed by the voter turnout, but did not personally witness anything illegal or suspicious," said spokeswoman Jane Roh, who declined to comment on the DA's investigation.

Little was the only candidate on the ballot after a series of errors by Democrats.

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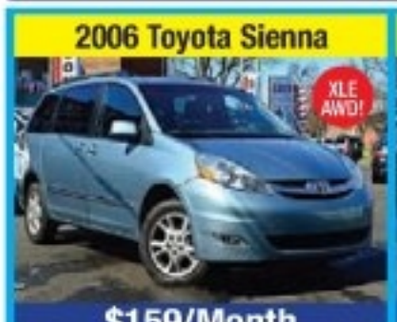

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Markets were down slightly as they reacted to GOP leaders pulling their Obamacare repeal bill off of the House floor. GETTY IMAGES

Wall Street dips in dramatic session as health bill pulled

It's failure raises questions how other policy goals will succeed.

A dramatic session on Wall Street ended with stocks slightly lower on Friday as they pared losses in late-afternoon trading after Republicans pulled their bill to overhaul the health-care system.

The benchmark S&P 500 shot up briefly into positive territory before falling back into the red as Republicans pulled the legislation due to a shortage of votes just before the markets closed, leaving investors to assess how the health-care bill's failure would affect President Donald Trump's broader economic agenda.

Investors had worried earlier this week that the failure of the bill, which would have dismantled the law known as Obamacare, would prove an ominous sign for Trump's ability to push through his economic agenda, including tax reform.

"The economy and earnings were doing better since before the election."

Paul Zemsky

But some analysts and investors have seen a failure of the bill as a catalyst to bring forward action on tax reform in particular.

"Now that they've taken the health-care issue off the table, I think the market is more optimistic that they can do other things that are more doable that are not so complicated, such as regulatory reform and lowering taxes," said Margaret Patel, senior portfolio manager at Wells Fargo Asset Management in Boston.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average fell 59.86 points, or 0.29 percent, to end at 20,596.72, the S&P 500 lost 1.98 points, or 0.08 percent, to 2,343.98 and the Nasdaq Composite added 11.05 points, or 0.19 percent, to 5,828.74.

The back-and-forth over the bill this week has led to some of the most volatile trading Wall Street has seen since Trump's election in November. For the week, the S&P 500 fell 1.4 percent, its worst weekly decline of the year.

"This is now an indication that the president's agenda is probably going to be more ambitious than Congress can manage," said Peter Kenny, senior market strategist at Global Markets Advisory Group in New York. "It is probably going to mean that equity markets are going to have to factor in a degree of dysfunction that investors were hoping they wouldn't have to."

The S&P 500 has climbed 9.6 percent since Trump's election, notching a series of record highs along the way. But the rally has stalled recently, and Tuesday's 1.2 percent drop set off concerns about the beginning of a larger fall.

"The economy and earnings were doing better since before the election," said Paul Zemsky, chief investment officer for multi-asset strategies and solutions at Voya Investment Management in New York. "If people want to drop the S&P by 300 points because this doesn't pass, I and others will be down there to buy it."

Shares of hospital operators finished sharply higher, with Tenet Healthcare up 7.4 percent. The potential dismantling of Obamacare has pressured hospital stocks over concerns the benefits the companies gained from coverage expansion would diminish.

In corporate news, Micron Technology jumped 7.4 percent after the chipmaker's revenue and profit forecasts beat expectations. The stock was the biggest percentage gainer on the S&P and helped lift the Nasdaq.

GameStop tumbled 13.6 percent after the company's profit projection fell below estimates.

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White House Chief of Staff Reince Priebus GETTY IMAGES

White House looks past conservatives on tax reform

Republican lawmakers aren't off the hook.

Fresh off a defeat on U.S. health care legislation, the White House warned rebellious conservative lawmakers that they should get behind President Donald Trump's agenda or he may bypass them on future legislative fights, including tax reform.

The threat by White House chief of staff Reince Priebus to build a broad coalition on tax reform that could include moderate Democrats came as the Republican head of the tax-writing committee in the House of Representatives said he hoped to move a tax bill through his panel this spring.

House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Kevin Brady said his committee had been working on tax reform in parallel with the failed healthcare reform push.

"We've never stopped working," Brady told Fox News' "Sunday Morning Futures with Maria Bartiromo." "We will continue to make improvements."

Brady said the committee plans to move on the bill in the spring. He said he wanted the House blueprint to be the basis for Trump's tax reform plan rather than have competing versions from Treasury and the White House.

Both Trump and Priebus have scolded hardline conservatives who rejected legislation backed by the White House to overhaul Obamacare.

Speaking on "Fox News Sunday," Priebus held out the possibility of working with moderate Democrats as well as Republicans to pass other aspects of Trump's agenda, such as his proposed budget, the revamp of the tax code and a renewed effort at healthcare reform.

"If we can come up with a bill that accomplishes the goals of the president with Republicans alone, we'll take it and we'll move forward with it," Priebus said.

But he added: "I think it's more or less a warning shot that we're willing to talk to anyone. We always have been and I think more so now than ever."

In an embarrassment for Trump, who had campaigned for the White House on what he said were his skills as a dealmaker, the healthcare bill was pulled from the floor of the House of Representatives on Friday because it failed to draw enough support from within Trump's own Republican Party.

Objections from members of the conservative House Freedom Caucus and from moderate Republicans left leaders short of the votes needed for passage, with Democrats unified in opposition.

Trump failed to win over the Freedom Caucus lawmakers despite courting them intensively. REUTERS

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Carrie Fisher, Debbie Reynolds lauded at public memorial service

"My mother didn't like … funerals. She liked shows and parties."

Debbie Reynolds and Carrie Fisher GETTY IMAGES

Mother-daughter actresses Debbie Reynolds and Carrie Fisher, who died in December just a day apart, were remembered by fans and friends on Saturday at a public memorial service in the Hollywood Hills, where they were laid to rest side-by-side in January.

Comedian Dan Aykroyd, who was once engaged to Fisher, and actor Griffin Dunne, her close friend, paid tribute to the actress best known as "Star Wars'" Princess Leia, who later found success through her satirical writing skills in literature, film and on Broadway.

The memorial featured home videos and photo montages set to music, as well as performances by the Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles and dancers from the Debbie Reynolds Dance Studio.

Reynolds was remembered by actress Ruta Lee, who urged fans not to mourn, but rather take delight in the "Singin' in the Rain" star's life.

Hundreds of fans lined up for hours to say a final goodbye, many placing flowers at their grave.

Fisher, 60, died on Dec. 27, four days after suffering a heart attack on a flight from Britain where she had been shooting the third season of a British television comedy.

A day later, Reynolds, who sang and danced her way into the hearts of moviegoers in Hollywood musicals, suffered a stroke and died at the age of 84.

"When we heard about what happened … it honestly felt like a family member that I've loved for decades was gone," said Liza Rios-Proprofsky, a Fisher fan who had a "Star Wars"-themed wedding.

Reynolds fan Barbara Doss reflected that "They're both so unsinkable," in a reference to one of Reynolds' most memorable roles, "The Unsinkable Molly Brown."

"Debbie always said she was unsinkable, and that's so true," she added. "They were strong, amazing women, and I'm so happy that [Reynolds'] son did this for us so we can come and pay our respects," she said of Todd Fisher, who arranged the memorial.

"This entire thing I'm calling a show, not a memorial," Fisher said. "Because my mother didn't like memorials or funerals. She liked shows and parties. She also loved her people, and you are all her people — not just her close friends but her extended family, her fans." REUTERS

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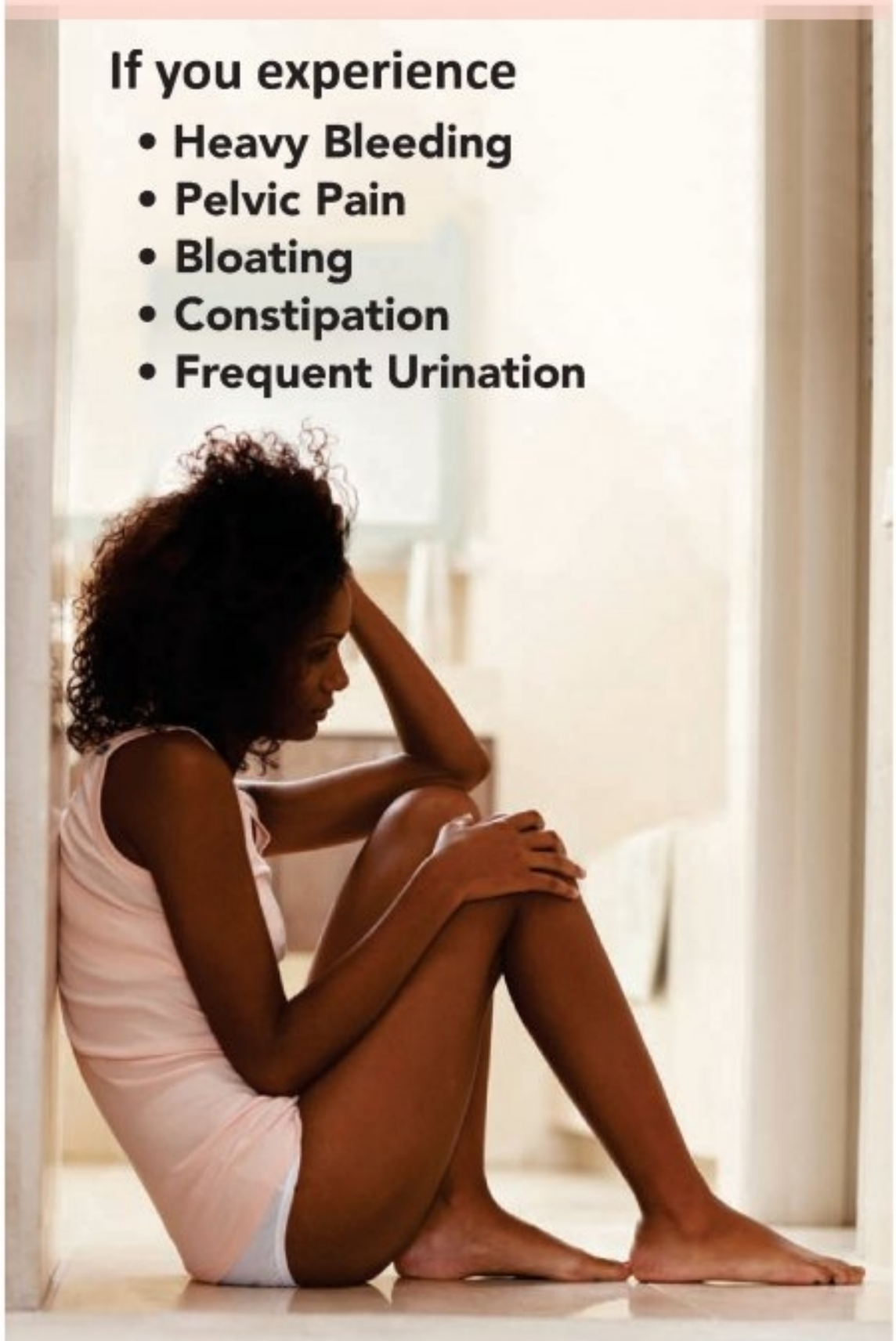

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RACHAEL CLEMMONS
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Mindy Kaling and Cory Booker's modern romance

You know how you don't know you want something until it's right up in your face, and you're like, "Why didn't I think of that?" Well, let me tell you a story.

Cory Booker — yes, the attractive dude slash New Jersey senator, asked actress and writer Mindy Kaling on a date via Twitter and it's everything.

After Kaling's "Mindy Project" character, Mindy Lahiri, dissed New Jersey on a recent episode, Booker took to Twitter to defend his state. "Ouch! @MindyKaling, heard Dr. Lahiri dissed Newark last night... (I still <3 U!)" Kind of thirsty, no?

Kaling assured Booker that anything Mindy Lahiri doesn't like is cool, and as an avid fan of the show, I can confirm that. She also slipped in that the "<3" was mutual. Mmhmm.

Then, Booker just went all out. I mean, all out. "You are making my day! Thanks for the clarification. And If the <3 is really mutual... Come have dinner with me in Newark? #PleaseSayYes." The thirst is real, y'all. But if this is love in the 21st century, I can get down with it.

Hopefully, Mindy Kaling is taking this seriously. And maybe it will inspire her "Mindy Project" character to date someone other than a white man on her show!

Vanessa Hudgens doesn't have time for Zac Efron

Vanessa Hudgens and Zac Efron are not on speaking terms. Get it, girl.

According to Us Weekly, Hudgens, 28, told "Access Hollywood" that she's completely done with the "Baywatch" star. When asked whether or not she still speaks to her ex-boyfriend, she gets candid AF. "Oh yeah, no … That's not a thing that happens," she says. "I completely lost contact with him." Damn, Efron, what did you do?

Hudgens and Efron, 29, dated from 2005 to 2010 after meeting on the set of "High School Musical," LOL. The actress has been dating a dude named Austin Butler since 2011.

I'm way more interested in her now that she seems a little shady. Teach me your ways, Hudge.

ALL IMAGES COURTESY GETTY IMAGES

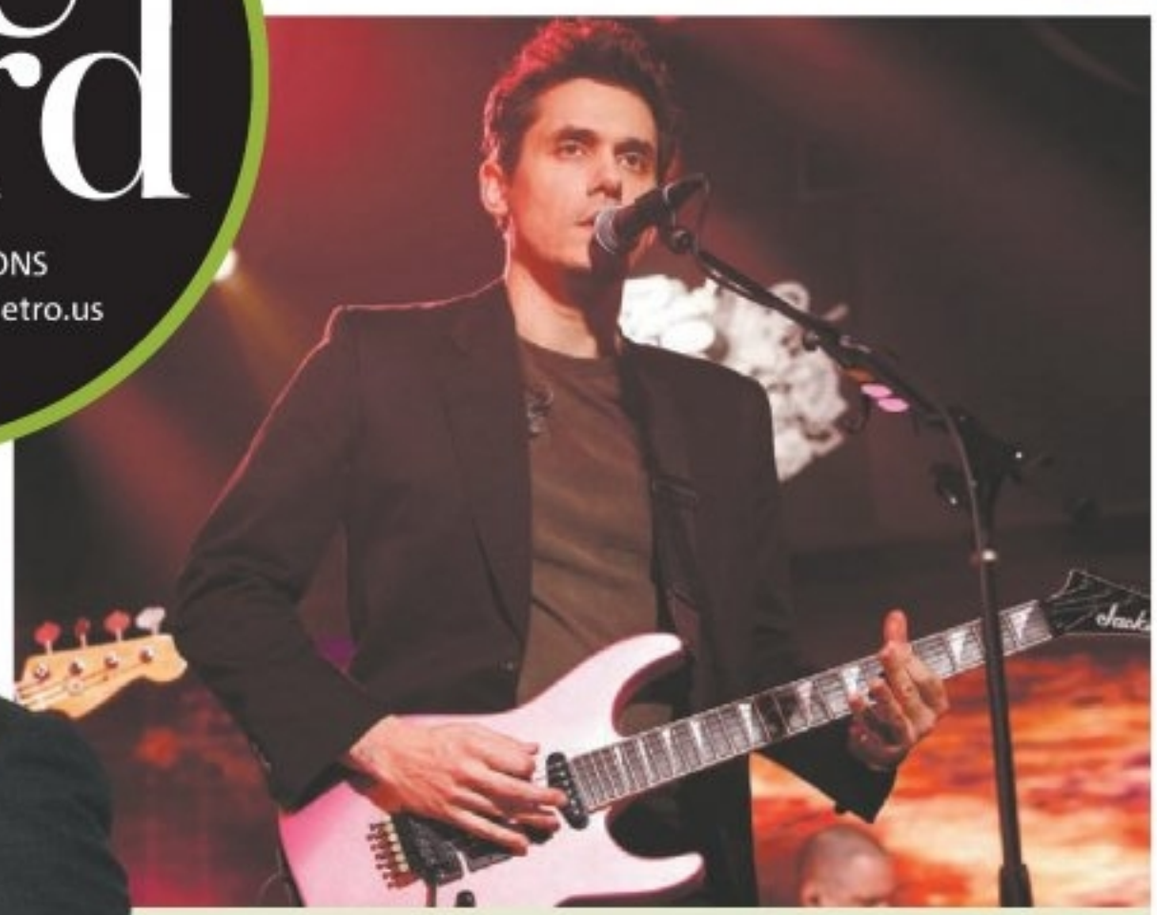
Cheryl and Liam Payne welcome baby boy

In case you forgot, babies are on trend. All the cool kids are doing it.

Cheryl, formerly Cheryl Vernandez-Fersini, formerly Cheryl Cole, welcomed a baby boy this weekend with partner Liam Payne. You know, the one guy from One Direction. Not Zayn, or the one with the hair or the one who got arrested for assaulting some people at the airport. Or the fourth one nobody cares about — the other one.

The new mom shared the news via Instagram. "Wednesday 22nd March, Liam and I became parents to an incredibly beautiful, healthy baby boy, weighing 7lb 9 and looking like a dream," she wrote. Cute.

The lil babe is the first for both Cheryl, 33, and Liam, 23. I literally can't wait for them to irrevocably ruin this baby's life by giving him a ridiculous name.



John Mayer is the thirstiest man alive

John Mayer is currently thinking about 2010 and how annoying he's been. And because he's coming out with an album, "The Search for Everything," he is being especially reflective and you know what that means: lots of gems completely lacking any sense of self-awareness, courtesy of The New York Times.

Mayer really would like to leave his "bad boy" image behind — his words, not mine — and is ready to settle down with a woman unlucky enough to want to be with him. "I'm a young guy," the 39-year-old says. "I like girls. I want girls to like me. I want to make music and be thought of as attractive." Watch out, ladies! Seriously. Watch out.

"I want the baby with the protective earphones." That's right, he wants to impregnate someone to prove that he's all grown-up. He also talks a lot about fatherhood and cultural appropriation, and it's just as painful as you're thinking, I promise.

So how far have we come from the days where Mayer compared his penis to a white supremacist and used the N-word in the same interview? Not very, it seems.

Cool about your new album though, bro.

6 Things we know about 'Game of Thrones' Season 7

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HBO has recently announced the release date for the new "Game of Thrones" episodes: July 16. Metro rounds up what we know so far about the penultimate season of the award-winning series inspired by George R.R. Martin's books.

GETTY IMAGES

New faces

There will be nine new characters, including a general, a father, a warrior, two guards and a merchant. So far only Jim Broadbent, who will star as Master of the City of Oldtown, and singer Ed Sheeran have been confirmed.

HBO

Plot

One of the showrunners, D.B. Weiss, says that this season will try to "figure out who Cersei really is and what she thinks." On that note, one of the screenwriters adds that the female characters will have "a central role" in the upcoming season.

EMMYS

No Emmys

After winning 12 Emmys in 2016, "Game of Thrones" will not be able to compete in 2017 because the organization asks applicants to release more than half of their episodes before May 31.

HBO

Four visions

This season, which will consist of only seven episodes, will have four directors: Alan Taylor, Jeremy Podeswa, Mark Mylod and Matt Shakman. This is the first "GoT" episode Shakman has directed.

HBO

Ice and flames

A live video unveiled March 9, which shows a block of ice being melted by flames, announced the premiere date for Season 7. It was a metaphor for the inevitable collision between the living and the white walkers.

Characters come back

Joe Dempsie will return with his character, Gendry. Apparently, he still intends to get the Iron Throne. David Bradley, according to information provided by his agents, will also be featured with his character, Walder Frey.

HBO

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SOUTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FISCAL YEAR 2018 CAPITAL BUDGET

I. The Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA) will conduct public hearings in the SEPTA Board Room at SEPTA Headquarters, 1234 Market Street, Mezzanine Level, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107, at 11:30 A.M. and 5:00 P.M., on Wednesday, April 26, 2017. The purpose of the hearing is to consider the Authority's proposed Fiscal Year 2018 Capital Budget and Fiscal Years 2018-2029 Capital Program and the projects contained therein for which financial assistance is being sought. The total amount of federal and state funds to be received in Fiscal Year 2018 will be determined at the completion of the federal and state budget processes. SEPTA proposes to submit to its funding agencies a program of projects for funding consideration. SEPTA's final federal Section 5307 Program of Projects will be made available on SEPTA's website, http://septa.org/strategic-plan/reports.html; through the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP); and in conjunction with the DVRPC's Public Involvement Process for the TIP.

II. At the hearings, SEPTA will afford an opportunity for interested persons or agencies to be heard with respect to the social, economic and environmental aspects of the projects. Interested persons may submit orally, or in writing, evidence and recommendations. Speakers for the morning and evening sessions must register by 12:00 PM and 5:30 PM, respectively, on the day of the Public Hearings.

III. Persons wishing to file written comments may forward them to the Director of Capital Budget and Grant Development, 9th Floor, 1234 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107-3780. Comments must be received by May 2, 2017, so that they may be forwarded to the Hearing Examiner. Comments may also be sent via email to capbudget@septa.org.

IV. Individuals in need of a sign language interpreter should contact the Director of the Capital Budget and Grant Development Department at the address listed above by April 10, 2017.

V. An audio version of the public hearing notice and summary will be available through the Associated Services for the Blind at its website: www.asb.org and at the office of the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, 919 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107.

VI. On or about March 27, 2017, members of the public may obtain a copy of the proposed Capital Budget and Twelve Year Capital Program at SEPTA's website: www.septa.org or by requesting, in writing, a copy from the Director of the Capital Budget and Grant Development Department at the address listed above.

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Six best space monsters

In the new film "Life," a small blob of alien life grows into a horrifying, ravenous squiddie. It's a cool space creature. Still, it didn't make this list.

Predator, "Predator"

Part Rastafarian, part samurai, part, and we quote, "one ugly motherf—er," this interstellar menace rocks dreadlocks, a cool katana blade and a mouth that, well, looks like a vagina. Over the years he's taken out Jesse Ventura, Morton Downey Jr. and Topher Grace. He's even faced off against the alien from "Alien," twice, though he's clearly the inferior space monster, and not just because he's only really gotten one decent film. Still, do hold out hope for next year's latest "Predator" reboot, coming next year. MATT PRIGGE

The Thing, "The Thing"

In the 1951 original — called "The Thing from Another World" — the "Thing" was a dude who looked like he was genetically fused with a vegetable. John Carpenter is an A-No.-1 fan of Howard Hawks, who produced the classic, and his 1982 remake honors the first by not being terribly faithful. His creature is a shape-shifter that consumes, then poses as its victims, pretending to be them and, when caught, flexing the flesh in creative and gruesome ways. At the time, disgusted critics and audiences thought Carpenter had gone too far. Nowadays we sing a different tune. MP

Freaky beasts with glowing teeth, "Attack the Block"

Possibly the most obscure movie on this list is this 2011 insta-cult classic from England, in which a low-income apartment building is beset by furry freakazoids that look like steroidal, less funny versions of the killer furballs from "Critters." But they could give any space monster a run for its money, after chewing it to little pieces. They don't have a name, but when it's dark you can only see their enormous neon blue-green fangs. Like the film itself, they're not to be trifled with. MP

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The blob, "The Blob"

It's so simple: just a lumbering mass of goo that likes to suck its victims into its blubbery, translucent body, allowing onlookers to see loved ones eaten alive. The low-budget 1958 version, starring pre-mega-fame Steve McQueen as an unusually laconic teen hero, is the better piece of cinema, but the 1988 remake has its R-rated charms (including a poor dishwasher sucked into a sink drain, though we're not sure how that works). Both are equally terrifying in part because, like zombies, they don't move so fast, causing their prey to undermine their powers. MP

The Xenomorph, "Alien"

Still going strong after 38 years, the sleek, fat-headed, drooling creature that debuted in the 1979 original "Alien" isn't impressive for its number of kills, which is relatively low. It's because of that design. Made at a time when most screen aliens were just some dude in a makeshift suit — even in the first "Star Wars" — "Alien" stuck out because the filmmakers hired H.R. Giger, the late Swiss surrealist and the creator of somehow even more disturbing paintings, sculptures and other miscellany. The forthcoming "Alien: Covenant" has a new breed that pops out of one's stomach. (Yikes!) But it won't beat the OG Xenomorph. MP

The bugs, "Starship Troopers"

We tend to be "quality over quantity" people, because, well, we're snobs. And we'll admit the supersized so-called bugs of Paul Verhoeven's bloody and subtly satirical 1997 soldiers-in-space epic are maybe not the greatest monsters if you only saw one of them. But if you see, let's say, hundreds of them, marauding over their arid and rocky planet, descending upon humans armed merely with big guns, they're jaw-dropping. And they have variety: Some of them are huge fire-breathers, and their leader is a gross, sluggy brain thing. It's really a case of very strong quality plus even higher quantity, which we'd argue, put together, gives them an edge over the iconic, deadly and generally brilliant Xenomorph of "Alien." MP

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Life as a psychic

Thomas John tells us what it's like to talk to dead people.

Celebrity psychic Thomas John tells us what it's like to connect with the dead. PROVIDED

JENNIFER LOGUE
@jenniferlogue
jennifer.logue@metro.us

Some are gifted with an eye for design, some have an ear for music and some are said to have extrasensory perception — the ability to see, hear and feel beyond the scope of us normal folks. Celebrity psychic Thomas John says he is one of these rare souls and is credited with predicting the split of Katie Holmes and Tom Cruise as well as the deaths of Whitney Houston and Michael Jackson. On April 2, he comes to Philly for "An Evening With the Dead," and he chats with us about the event and what it feels like to talk to dead people.

What's the difference between a psychic and a medium?
A medium speaks to the dead, and a psychic is somebody who connects with your energy and your aura and can see through about the past, present and future.

So you dive deeper because you do both?
Yes, correct.

When did you first discover your gift?
Well, when I was 5 years old I saw my dead grandfather. He started to visit me and then growing up, I saw things. I sensed things, and I would tell my parents about it. And then it [the gift] sort of kind of went away and came back. I didn't really realize what it was until I was probably in college.

What does it feel like when you connect with the dead?
I hear them. I feel them. I sense them. I get impressions from them. It's all of that.

Why do the deceased want to connect with the living?
There's a lot of different reasons why somebody who's passed over may come through. They may want to communicate something about their life here, why something happened, explain themselves in some way. Sometimes they just want to validate that they are there and are a part of our lives.

If you want a vacation from all this, can you just shut it off at will?
I do disconnect energetically sometimes. I have rules with the spirit world so when I'm connecting with it, I can sense when I need to pull away. When I'm walking down the street, I can feel things but I have to concentrate in order to get a message through. I think it's probably like anybody else: When you're an artist, you see the world through art. When you're a musician, you probably see the world a lot through music. This is part of how I view the world.

What can we expect from the event April 2?
It's a group event, and I will pick people out of the audience and give them a reading. So everybody won't get a message but you can also get messages indirectly. Sometimes I have people come up to me after and they say, "You didn't give me a reading, but I learned something."

If you go

"An Evening with the Dead"
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Chest Rockwell from 'Boogie Nights' is getting his own beer

Barcade and Sly Fox Brewing collaborated on the new brew.

JENNIFER LOGUE
@jenniferlogue
jennifer.logue@metro.us

Remember Chest Rockwell from the 1997 film "Boogie Nights"? The fictional crime-fighting character is getting his own beer, thanks to Barcade and Sly Fox Brewing Co.

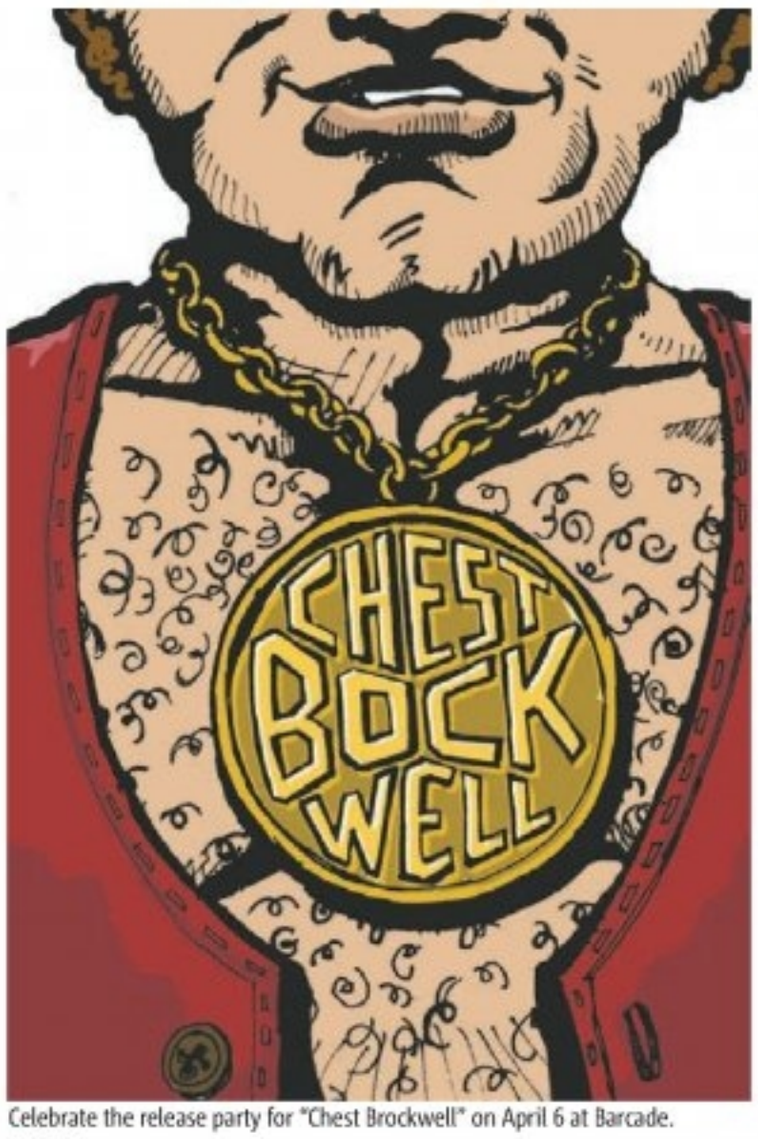
On Thursday, April 6, the brew, "Chest Brockwell," will make its debut at 4 p.m. at a release party held at Barcade (1114 Frankford Ave.) in Fishtown.

Made with chestnut flour, the brew is a traditional Dunkel Bock, a German-style lager with Vienna, Munich, caramel and roasted malts from Bavaria.

Sly Fox head brewer, Brian O'Reilly comments in a press release:

"Barcade has been a champion of craft beer for more than a decade, way before craft beer was cool, and brewing a beer for them is an honor. When we started discussing the brew with the group, the idea of a Chestnut Bock stuck out to me. It was a challenge bringing an unusual ingredient like chestnuts into such a traditional style, and I am proud to say we pulled it off. The chestnut flour really added an interesting depth to this malt-forward beer in a balanced and delicious way."

At the release party, other Sly Fox beers will be available as well, including: 360 IPA, Helles Lager, Ichor, Odyssey, O'Reilly Stout, Phoenix Pale Ale, Pikeland Pils, Royal Weisse, Route 113 IPA and Saison VOS.



Celebrate the release party for "Chest Brockwell" on April 6 at Barcade.
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Chest Brockwell will also be available at Barcade locations in the region including: Jersey City, New Jersey.; Manhattan and Brooklyn, New York; and New Haven, Connecticut.

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Celebrate spring

The market streets teem with vendors and visitors. ALL PHOTOS CARRIE HILL PHOTOGRAPHY

The kickoff event in Chestnut Hill is April 6.

MEREDITH ORLANDINI
@MetroPhilly
letters@metro.us

Clover Market starts off its handful of open-air markets Sunday, April 9 in Chestnut Hill. Six markets are scheduled from now until June 18, bringing together over 240 vendors of antiques, vintage jewelry and clothing, handmade crafted items and original art to several streets in the Philadelphia region.

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at Clover Market

provided opportunities for independent and local artists, artisans and dealers to engage directly with customers and interested buyers. Not only does it serve as a way for them to get exposure for their products, but it also gives the local community a platform to buy handmade, unique items.

Extending beyond Philadelphia, Clover Market attracts antique dealers and craftsmen from as far south as North Carolina and as far north as Maine. Attendees can also expect to find local nonprofits, animal rescue groups and arts-based organizations participating as featured community partners.

Each market will include over 100 vendors.

If you go

Clover Market Spring Kickoff
Sunday, April 9
10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
25 W. Highland Ave., Chestnut Hill
theclovermarket.com

Other Clover Market dates:
April 23, May 21, and June 11: Bryn Mawr
May 7: Collingswood, N.J.
June 18: Kennett Square

Besides the incredible selection of homemade knickknacks, paintings and antiques, the markets will also include a variety of gourmet food trucks, like Philly's cheese-on-wheels Say Cheese, Fishtown's Weckerly's Ice Cream and Jersey's Bonjour Creperie.

There will also be crafts for kids and live music from Lost Highway String Band. Take advantage of the (hopefully sunny) springtime weather to explore Clover Market and pick up a beautifully crafted gift for your friend, your significant other or yourself.

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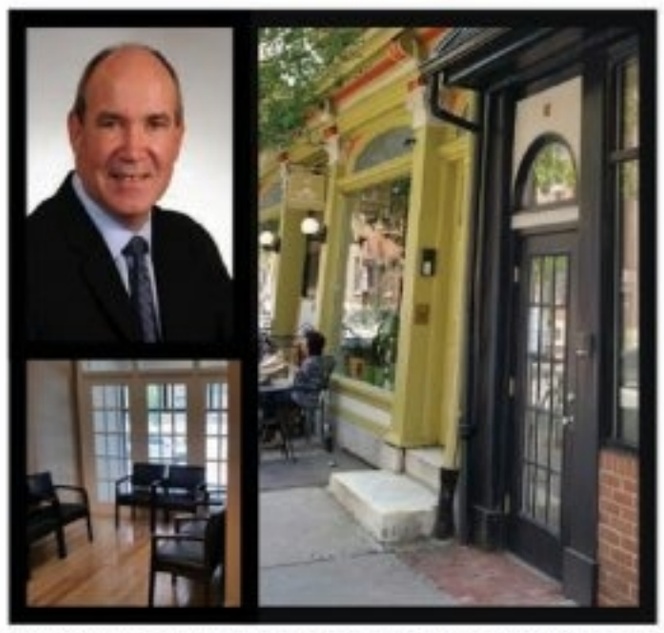

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1600 HIGHLAND AVE, CHESTER, PA 19013
AUCTION DATE: 4/12/2017 TIME: 11:00 AM
JAMES E LIOTT 205, CLARETTA KIRKLAND 849
NAJA RASHEED 447, ERIC FREEMAN 716, TIFFANI RICHARDSON 435
EVELYN CURCIO 219, KHADIJAH MUHAMMAD 638, CHRISTOPHER BURTON 875
EMITT & BARBARA LATIMER 720, BRIANNA WILLIS BREON 576, NICOLE SMITH 524
BRITTANY MURRAY 508, BRIAN JONES 304, JAMES E LIOTT 203, GLENDA HALL 573
GEORGE COLDER 632, SANIYAH POWELL 256, SERINA HUNT 442, TAMARRA CALDWELL 117

U-HAUL MOVING & STORAGE OF SOUTH PHILADELPHIA
6141 LANCASTER AVE, PHILADELPHIA, PA 19151
AUCTION DATE: 4/12/2017 TIME: 9:00 AM
AKEEMA BROWN 1638, DIANE ROBINSON 1507, BRITTANY HODGES 1213
ANTOINETTE MCMILLAN 1204, MARCUS SIMS 1240, PAMALIA WILLIAMS 1008,
CURTISHA STARKS 1303, GILBERT ROGERS 1202

U-HAUL MOVING & STORAGE AT QUARTERMASTER PLAZA
2990 S 20TH ST, PHILADELPHIA, PA 19145
AUCTION DATE: 4/11/2017 TIME: 9:00 AM
SHAKUR BEY 1040, ELIZABETH CAMPITELLI 1019, GARY CUSTIS 1122,
PHILLY PRIDE 1783, DEEDRA NICHOLS 1765,
CHERYL WATSON 1963, LINDA JONES 1413A, BUNMI ADEYEMI 1162,
JOHN SANDEFUR 1496, NICHOLAS SACERDOTE 1792, JOHN POLILLO 1414,
JAMES FRANCIS 1519, IAKEIA WINSTON 1743
ERICA CROPPER 1508, CLAYTON WILLIAMS 1232, KEVIN MENA 1731

U-HAUL MOVING & STORAGE OF PHILADELPHIA
314-322 N 13TH ST, PHILADELPHIA, PA 19107
AUCTION DATE: 4/10/2017 TIME: 10:30 AM
PATRICIA BYRNE 8242, TODD BRISTER 3366, PATRICIA BYRNE 8275,
PATRICIA BYRNE 3374, KEVIN CURRY 3246, DANIEL SINNOT 8261, PATRICIA BRYNE 3022,
LARRY MATTIS 8230, JAMES HOUSTON 5101, PATRICIA BYRNE 6024, PATRICIA BYRNE 3431,
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How to pick the right college for you

jobs & education

After months of research, tedious applications and campus visits, students finally have to commit to one college. ALL PHOTOS ISTOCK

National decision day is approaching.

SARA FEINSTEIN
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sara.feinstein@metro.us

After months of research, campus visits and admission essays, the big decision has arrived: Where are you going to college?

We spoke with Stacey Brook, founder and chief adviser at College Essay Advisors, for some tips on how to make the right choice before the May 1 deadline.

Consult your records

Before you get overwhelmed by indecision, the first thing you should do is look back at your records, says Brook, "and remember– you prepared for this."

The supplemental essays, which essentially asked students why they were interested in going to any given school, is a great place to start, she explains. These essays require a lot of research and likely "contain many specific justifications that connects the students interests to the resources the school has to offer," says Brook.

There's also a lot of to be learned from what they jotted down during their college visits and online research sessions, explains Brook. "Students should unearth those notes and remind themselves of why each school initially made it onto their lists."

Make a pros and cons list

For those who don't know where to begin, start with a trusty pros and cons list.

Brook suggests narrowing down your top three choices, and writing down as many defining qualities about each school as you can think of. Pros can include anything from offers my dream major or has excellent cafeteria food, while the cons might take into consideration class sizes or proximity to home, she explains.

The next step: Go through your lists and circle the top three musts in each category, says Brook.

"This just makes it easy to visualize your interest in a set of schools in a more cut-and-dried fashion, and it might make it incredibly obvious where your interest at heart lies," she explains. "At the very least, it's going to help you organize your thoughts and distill the most important parts of your decision making."

Do the math

In the end, for many students, choosing a school is going to come down to the money says Brook.

If you've received a financial-aid package, it's important that you factor that into the equation, she explains. "Ask the colleges financial aid office to break things down for you and answer any questions for you that might come up," says Brook. "Those things are typically pretty tricky to unpack. So spending some time with a student debt calculator and really figuring out what your situation will be, even with financial aid, is pretty crucial."

You should also look into how graduates from any given school typically fare upon graduation, she explains, especially in your field of study. Ask yourself, "If I'm going to incur debt, will the reward of getting a degree from the school I've selected financially be worth it?"

Graduating high school students have a lot to consider before embarking on this next journey.

The other thing to consider is: Do you have the aspirations to pursue a Masters degree or a PhD? If so, you may want to take into account that you could potentially be accruing yet another degrees worth of expenses when you're finished with your undergraduate schooling– and plan your spending accordingly.

Allow yourself space to grow

"The time period between when you apply in November or December, and when you're required to make a decision in May is often a period of tremendous maturation and growth," says Brook. "Just because you had a burning desire to attend a school six months ago doesn't mean you want to go there today."

Overall, she explains, it's incredibly useful to really sit with yourself and consider: Is what I wanted half a year ago the same thing that I want today?

Trust your gut

When it comes down to making the final decision, sometimes the best thing to do is just listen to yourself, says Brook. "Campus culture is often really hard to define, but sometimes you just have a special feeling about a place," she adds.

That means thinking about where you felt most at home while walking on campus, which students seemed the most welcoming, which academic programs or school traditions called to you when you were thumbing through the websites and said, 'I was made for you,' she explains. "Anything along those lines — if you can listen to that — it can be a pretty valuable sign for you."

Make the choice and stick with it

At the end of the day, the best thing you can do is make the choice and avoid looking back.

After all, the truth is "there is a niche for every single student on any given campus– you just have to be willing to seek out your place," explains Brook.

And even the wrong initial decision is fixable. If the school you end up choosing turns out not to be a great fit, transferring is always an option, she adds. "You're never going to be stuck in one place as long as you check in with yourself along the way."

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SESSION II – 11:30 AM – 12:15 PM

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SESSION III – 12:30 PM – 1:15 PM

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Eagles offseason recap: Linebacker, running back, wide receiver still areas of concern

The Eagles made some big moves in March, but there is a lot of work left to be done.

LUKE MILLER
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The Eagles have spent a lot of attention — and money — attending to their need for offensive weapons. GETTY IMAGES

Now we are almost at the halfway point between the beginning of NFL free agency and the start of the 2017 draft, and league activity has slowed. The Eagles themselves have been silent since swapping Chase Daniel for Nick Foles on March 13 — the opposite of free agency's opening day, when the Eagles upgraded one of their weakest positions with the best weapon available: Alshon Jeffery.

The focus the Eagles paid to receivers in free agency has assured that Carson Wentz will have real NFL receivers to target in 2017. Despite the resources already spent on the position, the Eagles appear to still be considering spending a high pick on a receiver. They've hosted private visits with Western Michigan's Corey Davis, Washington's John Ross, Clemson's Mike Williams and Penn State's Chris Godwin. The first three are generally expected to be among the first 20 names called at the draft, and Godwin shouldn't last past the second round.

Is it foolish for the Eagles to still be considering wide receiver as one of their primary needs? It's doubtful. Neither Jeffery or Jordan Matthews are under contract after this season, and it remains to be seen if Torrey Smith can recapture the form he showed in Baltimore. While the present is much brighter, the long-term future of the position is anything but assured at this point.

The Eagles' other most notable signing came along the offensive line, where they added Chance Warmack, a former top-10 pick of the Titans who started 48 games at guard over four seasons in Tennessee. In Philadelphia he'll be reunited with his college line coach, Jeff Stoutland. Stoutland and Warmack won two national titles together at Alabama.

They also re-signed center/guard Stefen Wisniewski, making sure they have plenty of depth on the interior of their line for the moment, with 2016 starters Allen Barbre, Jason Kelce and Brandon Brooks all still in Philadelphia, and last year's third round selection, Isaac Seumalo, awaiting his chance to compete for a starting job. Barbre was given permission to seek a trade, and it has been speculated the team will look to move on from Kelce, who has started at center since being drafted in 2011, and his salary.

The rest of the offseason has focused on subtraction. Salaries the team has already moved on from include Connor Barwin and Leodis McKelvin. Nolan Carroll and Bennie Logan have not been re-signed either. The deepest cornerback class in recent memory has most thinking the Eagles will focus on the draft when finding replacements for McKelvin and Carroll.

As for Barwin, it would be fantastic if his replacement could come from in-house. Vinny Curry, now with his own expensive contract, had a disappointing 2.5 sacks in 2016 in a new system that was supposed to be better suited to him. At the same time, long-suffering first round selection Marcus Smith III matched that sack total in his best season yet. Edge rusher has been touted as a possible first-round target for the Eagles, but it would be nice if one of these formerly exciting players could return them to the feared pass-rush present when they ran a 3-4.

14

THE EAGLES HAVE THE 14TH OVERALL PICK IN THE DRAFT. THE LAST TIME THEY PICKED 14TH THEY TOOK BRODERICK BUNKLEY.

Backup Beau Allen should have the first shot to start in Logan's abandoned position along the line, and he has been capable when called on before. One of the most prominent free agents still on the market however is Johnathan Hankins, a New York Giants defensive tackle the Eagles have been heavily connected to. If he does wind up in Philadelphia, it could be on the sizable long-term deal it's now being reported Logan rejected mid-season.

Lastly, two more positions of concern remain unaddressed: running back and linebacker. Each spot has a player, Ryan Mathews and Mychal Kendricks, respectively, expected to be on the outs with no clear replacement. Mathews cannot be released by the Eagles while injured, but with only Darren Sproles and second-year rusher Wendell Smallwood on the depth chart behind him, expect the Eagles to add another back.

At linebacker, the Eagles oft turned to two-linebacker sets last year with Jordan Hicks and Nigel Bradham, and Kendricks was the odd man out, playing under a third of the team's snaps a year after he signed a hefty contract extension and was considered a foundation of the defense going forward. Off-the-field issues may eventually lead to a suspension for Bradham, and a Kendricks' exit would leave the Eagles painfully thin at linebacker. It's unclear if the Eagles want to use more linebackers on the field or not, but they've hosted Alabama linebacker and first round prospect Reuben Foster for a visit. It's hard to imagine they wouldn't use him if they called his name.

Charles a fit for Eagles; Packers have interest

The Eagles have question marks at running back — with the oft-injured veteran Ryan Mathews atop the depth chart and the soon to be retired Darren Sproles at No. 2.

Philly has the ability to wait and cut Mathews later this offseason. And with Doug Pederson's close ties to now-free-agent running back Jamaal Charles, perhaps at the right price the former dynamic offensive weapon would find himself in South Philadelphia.

Back on March 1, the Eagles head coach said, "I've got history with him in Kansas City for three years and he's a tremendous running back and we will evaluate him now to see how he can fit into our offense."

Philly stands at just over $5 million above the 2017 NFL salary cap limit. Cutting Mathews could open up $4 million in cap space. The Birds could also add a running back in the draft, or stick with unproven Wendell Smallwood for the upcoming season, but the Eagles have shown an affinity this offseason toward adding veteran weapons for Carson Wentz to play with, like Alshon Jeffery and Torrey Smith.

Adding Jamaal Charles on an incentive-laden one-year deal could make sense.

ESPN.com is also reporting that the Packers are a leading candidate for Charles' services. After riding wide receiver Ty Montgomery as a running back down the stretch last season the team inked Christine Michael earlier this month. The team will need some more firepower at running back and Adrian Peterson's price tag is apparently so high it is scaring teams away.

Charles has played in just eight games total over the last two seasons after three 1,000-yard rushing campaigns in a row from 2012-14.

EVAN MACY

Will the Eagles get involved in the Jamaal Charles sweepstakes? GETTY IMAGES

Smith a perfect fit, other prospects that could land in Philly

These five college stars would be great pick ups for the Sixers.

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The Sixers don't yet know what their draft pick will be when June arrives. In fact, no one does.

With just under a dozen remaining in the regular season, plus the unpredictable draft lottery, Philly could fall anywhere from pick one to pick eight. They also have the right to swap picks with the Kings, creating more unpredictability — as well as the rights to the Lakers' pick if it is not in the top three.

So we know Philly will have a top eight pick, maybe two. We also know they won't be picking a big man. That narrows the field a bit.

Here's a brief look at the soon to be former college stars whom Philadelphia could select in June's draft based on their play style and fit into Philly's scheme:

1. Lonzo Ball, 6-foot-6 point guard, UCLA
Ball would be an epically good fit for Philly — as they need a pass-first point guard who can distribute the ball to Joel Embiid as well as an off-ball scorer who can succeed when Ben Simmons is playing at the point. Ball is exactly that, a big agile point guard who can score. He draws comparisons to Jason Kidd and has posted a 14.7 points, 6.1 rebounds, 7.6 assists, 1.9 steals per game stat line while making more than two 3-pointers per game. However, he'd require a top two pick so the Sixers would need to get very lucky.

2. Markelle Fultz, 6-foot-4 point guard, Washington
Another long, scoring-gifted West Coast guard, Fultz is all but assured to go in the top two as well, so despite his perfect fit — like Ball — Philly would need some help from the pingpong balls. With a 6-foot-8 wingspan, NBA teams will overlook the lackluster 10-win season his Huskies had. He averaged 23.2 points, 5.7 rebounds and 5.9 assists per game in Washington.

3. Dennis Smith Jr., 6-foot-2 point guard, North Carolina State

The Sixers are at the mercy of the NBA Draft Lottery's ping pong balls. GETTY IMAGES

Smith is arguably the most athletic player on this list, but clearly is lacking in the size department. Still, 6-foot-2 point guards can still be stars in the NBA and Smith is a talented and creative scorer, netting 18.1 points, 4.6 rebounds, 6.2 assists and 2.1 steals per game. He also fits in with the Sixers because he is 12 months removed from ACL surgery and is still recovering. One can only presume Smith will be even more impressive at 100 percent.

4. De'Aaron Fox, 6-foot-4 point guard, Kentucky
Fox won't slip outside the top five in the NBA draft, but he is among the worst fits for the Sixers at point guard — their biggest position of need. Essentially, he is a smaller version of Simmons who rarely scores from beyond the arch. Still, He scored 16.4 points per game and if things fall a particular way on draft day, it would be silly for Philly to let him slip by.

5. Sindarius Thornwell, 6-foot-5 shooting guard, South Carolina
He won the SEC Player of the Year and is increasing his stock with the Gamecocks, who have made an unexpected run past Duke in the NCAA Tournament. His stock is rising, but he might be a stretch in the top three. But if the big names are off the board — and the Sixers are OK passing up on forwards Josh Jackson or Jason Tatum — he might be a good pick up in the five-to-eight range. He averaged 21.4 points, 7.3 rebounds and 2.2 steals per game this season.

HOMETOWN TROLLING

Who says sports fans in the Midwest are soft?

When No. 1 seed Kansas was essentially blown out by No. 3 Oregon, 74-60, in the Elite Eight this past weekend, the Lawrence Police Department (U of Kansas is located in Lawrence) trolled their hometown team hard.

The official Twitter account of the LPD wrote: "Well, at least we have a lot of experience dealing with fans after an #Elite8 loss. Get home safely Jayhawk fans. #DriveSober."

The LPD isn't wrong. Head coach Bill Self has been at the head of the Jayhawks bench since 2003 and his teams have lost in the Elite 8 round a remarkable five times. Going back further in his coaching career, Self has lost in that particular round seven times.

THE COOL HEEL

Roger Goodell officially made Tom Brady into the greatest anti-hero this world has seen since Tyler Durden when it was learned that the No. 12 Brady jersey was the No. 1 selling NFL jersey in all 50 states in the month of February. It's the first time ever one player has led jersey sales in all 50 states in a one month span, according to "Only in Boston."

All rebelling teenagers are surely down with the alleged cheater who does nothing but win, and it's gotta be a slap in the face for the non-New England dads of these kids to see their son or daughter waltzing around in a Brady jersey.

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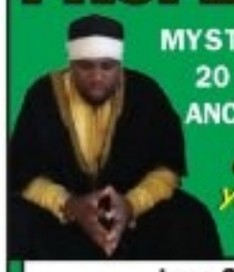

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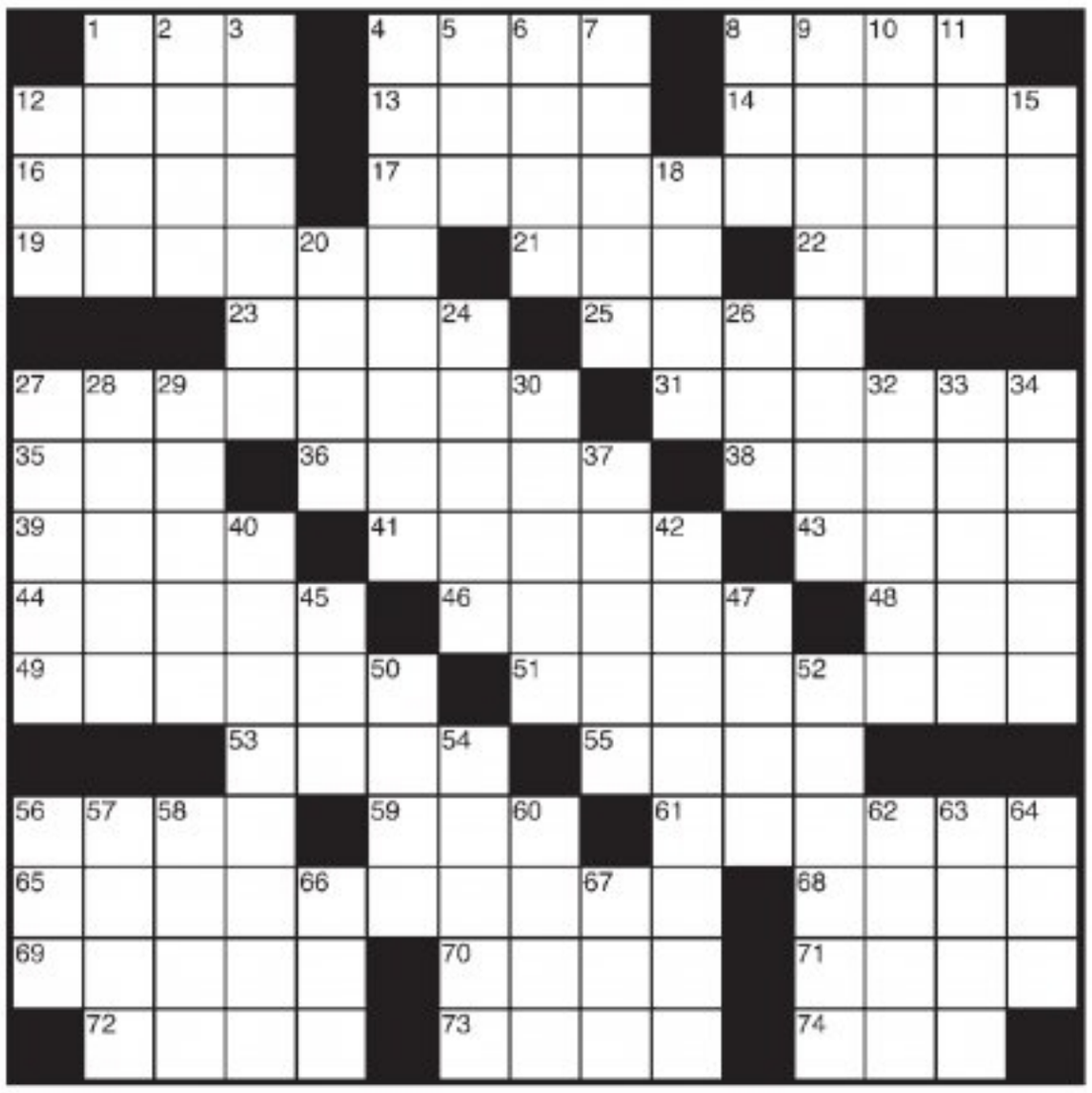
Across
1 – -relief
4 Wilts
8 Venomous snakes
12 Cats do it
13 Gallon fraction
14 Outburst of joy
16 Look intently
17 Soon
19 Kind of tire
21 Literary miscellany
22 Hockey feint
23 Pipe fittings
25 Snowballed
27 Avalanche
31 Trite phrase
35 NASA counterpart
36 Money-changer's profits
38 Buzz off
39 "Who Made Who" rockers
41 Film spectaculars
43 Sharpen up
44 Chocolate substitute
46 Pry
48 Finished first
49 Ditch
51 Dazzling
53 Close tightly
55 "-- kleine Nachtmusik"
56 Going around in circles
59 Ad -- committee
61 Shelved indefinitely
65 Famous trail location

Down
1 La – Tar Pits
2 Did very well
3 Chilling cry
4 Overflow
5 Goal
6 Home-loan org.
7 Smart
8 Tarzan's nanny
9 Lunch order
10 Mr. Sampras
11 Polio vaccine inventor
12 Aries mo.
15 PBS "Science Guy"
18 DEA operative
20 – Romeo
24 Lingerie buys
26 Loop trains
27 Strike back
28 Witty Wilde
29 Core group
30 Pork purchases
32 Swarm in
33 Asian capital
34 Make changes
37 Range
40 Fixed
42 Remote
45 Prior to yr. 1
47 Elizabeth of "La Bamba"
50 Big laugh (hyph.)
52 Interstellar dust cloud
54 Lomond and Ness
56 Aberdeen kid
57 Mayberry kid
58 Hot-tub locales
60 Guitarist -- Atkins
62 Scallion kin
63 Director – Kazan
64 – Leppard
66 Grassy field
67 Rollover subj.
68 River in the Congo
69 Sawyer of TV news
70 Man of the haus
71 Erik the Red's son
72 Is, in Madrid
73 Hang around
74 APB datum



metro.us/sudoku

easy

6	4	3	7				9	
9			8		1	3		
	7		9					
	1	6						4
		8				5		
4						2	7	
					2		8	
		9	1		3			6
	6				8	4	1	3

hard

9			3		4			7
		3						
	1		8	5		3	4	
1		9		2		7		
8								6
		2		4		8		1
	9	5		8	3		7	
						6		
3			1		9			5

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries Don't miss out on an opportunity that can change your life. Size up the situation and make your decision intelligently, without listening to someone's persuasive tactics.

Taurus Get out and get active. Learn as you go and strive for perfection and tolerance. Check out what others do, but don't be a follower.

Gemini Lead the fight for justice. Question someone's inconsistency and motives. Initiate discussions and bring about positive change. Take control and do your part.

Cancer Temptation will be your downfall. Moderation on all levels will be necessary to avoid controversy and damage to your reputation, status and emotional health.

Leo Size things up and take control. You are in a position to do some good, so don't back down. Establish your position and make decisions that promote change.

Virgo You should take action only when you are sure you are doing the right thing. Act on principle, facts and common sense. Your astute insight will help you excel.

Libra Don't let anyone spoil your day or ruin your plans. You cannot please everyone, but you can be responsible for your own happiness. Offer peace and love.

Scorpio Make changes that will encourage unity, strength and a clear passage to a brighter future. How you relate to those around you will improve your status.

Sagittarius Don't be fooled by someone using persuasive emotional tactics. Ask questions and look for alternatives that are more beneficial to your current situation.

Capricorn Look for clarity before you make an assumption. Being a cautious observer is in your best interest. Avoid unnecessary stress and pressure.

Aquarius Use your resources and search for opportunities that will benefit you. Someone you have worked with in the past will offer pertinent information.

Pisces Don't share private information that might put you in an awkward position. Live up to your promises, but protect yourself against being taken for granted. EUGENIA LAST

Yesterday's answers

P	O	L	L	■	S	P	A	S	M	■	I	R	A	N
A	L	O	E	■	L	A	N	K	A	■	C	O	C	O
P	A	N	G	■	A	T	T	I	C	■	I	S	I	S
A	F	G	H	A	N	I	S	■	A	R	C	A	D	E
■	■	■	O	N	T	O	■	S	O	I	L	■	■	■
S	H	A	R	K	■	S	A	P	■	B	E	A	C	H
C	O	G	N	A	C	■	P	R	E	S	S	U	R	E
U	T	A	■	■	S	T	A	Y	S	■	■	D	E	E
D	E	V	O	U	T	E	R	■	S	O	C	I	A	L
S	L	E	P	T	■	E	T	A	■	B	O	O	K	S
■	■	■	P	E	W	S	■	P	A	I	R	■	■	■
D	E	P	O	S	E	■	S	P	L	E	N	D	I	D
O	L	E	S	■	A	T	O	L	L	■	C	E	D	E
D	A	R	E	■	R	O	D	E	O	■	O	M	E	N
O	N	U	S	■	Y	E	A	S	T	■	B	O	A	T

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